

REMARKS

STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 7-9 have been amended. Claims 1 and 3-9 are pending and under consideration.

No new matter is being presented, and reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY:

On November 29, 2007, an Examiner Interview was held between the Examiner and the undersigned. During the Interview, differences between the claims and the prior art of record was discussed. In addition, possible claim amendments were discussed, but an agreement was not reached regarding precise language to use when amending the claims.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

Claims 1, 3, 5, and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Brown et al. (U.S. Patent 6,073,137) (hereinafter "Brown") in view of Yeung et al. (U.S. 2003/0093556) (hereinafter "Yeung"). The rejections of claims 1, 3, 5, and 7-9 are respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

As amended claim 1 recites "analyzing a folder configuration created on mail software in order to obtain information regarding the folder configuration and creating a scanned data folder accessible by the mail software, if necessary" at lines 3-5 and "creating the same folder configuration in a file system that is shared by the mail software and that reads documents by use of a scanner, copies those documents into the scanned data folder and files the documents on the basis of the obtained information" at lines 6-8. As discussed during the Examiner Interview, nothing has been cited in the prior art of record that teaches or suggests all that recited in claim 1. Claims 7 and 8 have also been amended similarly.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the combination of references cited by the Examiner does not teach all that is recited in claims 1, 7 and 8 and that these claims are patentably distinguish over Brown and Yeung. Consequently, it is further submitted that dependent claim 3 also patentably distinguish over the prior art, for at least the reasons provided above for the independent claims.

In the Office Action, at item 4, claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Brown in view of Yeung and further in view of Sykes (US Pre-Grant Publication 2002/0129108). The rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 4 depends from independent claim 1, which as stated above patentably distinguishes over the prior art. Further, it is submitted that Sykes fails to cure the deficiencies of Brown and Yeung set forth above. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that dependent claim 4 patentably distinguishes over the prior art for the reasons provided herein.

In the Office Action, at item 5, claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Brown in view of Yeung and further in view of Hendricks (US Pre-Grant Publication 2003/0033271). The rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Claim 6 depends from independent claim 1, which as stated above patentably distinguishes over the prior art. Further, it is submitted that Hendricks fails to cure the deficiencies of Brown and Yeung set forth above. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that dependent claim 6 patentably distinguishes over the prior art for the reasons provided herein.

CONCLUSION

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot. Further, all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Serial No. 10/509,964

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date:

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